

Loyola University Chicago Health Sciences Campus (LUCHSC) Institutional Biosafety Committee
Meeting Minutes

Date: 8/26/2025 11:30 AM

Called to Order: 11:30 AM

Location: 2160 S. 1st Ave Bldg. 115 Maywood, IL 60153

IBC Members

Please see the NIH Office of Science Policy Registration Management System for official Committee Members' roles.

Name	Committee Role	Attendance
Tom Gallagher	Chair	Present
Matthew Hejna	Director	Present
Maurizio Bocchetta	Member	Excused
Abby Kroken	Member	Present
Dave Barefield	Member	Present
James Migliorisi	Member	Present
Mike Nishimura	Present	Excused
Cynthia Tom	Member	Present
Farshid Azarafrooz	Member	Excused
Stuart Johnson	Member	Excused

Registrations for Protocol Review

Principal Investigator	Submission Type
Karen Visick	New Protocol (Designated Member Review)
Karthik Hullahalli	New Protocol (Full Committee review)

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Previous Meeting Date: 7/25/25

Determination: Approve

Comments: Gallagher made a motion to approve the minutes. Kroken seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously supported the motion.

I. New Category III-D

Lab Documentation and Training: All labs are required to have and maintain a current Laboratory Safety Plan, of which the Schedule G is a part, describing their lab space and any hazardous materials therein, and personnel must complete assigned safety trainings prior to conducting research described in the Schedule G. PIs are responsible for specific biosafety training procedures that are applicable to their grants and experiments.

1) VISICK, K. Title: Impacts of rising ocean temperatures on Vibrio abundance and biofilm formation

Biosafety Level: BSL-2

Purpose: The proposed work will evaluate biofilm formation (a multi-cellular community of bacteria) by four bacteria species: They will assess a variety of isolates sampled from marine environments and/or obtained from human or coral infections. For a subset of strains, we will perform genetic manipulations to knock-down or knock-out genes suspected to be important for

biofilm formation.

Committee Comments: Protocol was assigned to Designated Member Review. Submitter has addressed all comments from July Meeting

Status: Approved 8/26/25 (Vote 7-0-0)

2) HULLAHALLI, K. Title: Suppression of host inflammasome activation by ocular pathogens

Biosafety Level: BSL-2

Purpose: This project aims to understand how bacterial pathogens cause disease and how the immune system interacts with invading microbes. Biohazardous agents will be used to model and modulate the host-pathogen interface.

Committee Comments: Content was insufficient for committee to review. Submitter will need to provide a more descriptive abstract; describe how the work will be completed; provide the purpose of the research; describe the bacterial studies versus the viral vector studies. Two protocols would be appropriate for this.

Status: Full Committee Review for 9/30/25 meeting (Vote 7-0-0)

II. Old Business- Discussion

No Items

III. New Business- Discussion

No items

IV. Next IBC Meeting

09/30/2025

V. Meeting adjourned at 12:12 PM